



Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder. The description of the duties and responsibilities reflect the post at the time it was drawn up, the details of which may change over time without changing the general character and purpose of the post or the level of responsibility encompassed.

Job title: Assistant Professorial Research Fellow in Global Surgical Policy and Economics

Centre/Institute: Global Surgery Policy Unit, LSE Health
Accountable to: Unit Director, Global Surgery Policy Unit

Job Summary

The Royal College of Surgeons (RCS), the NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Global Surgery, and the LSE are to establish a Joint RCS-LSE Global Surgery Policy Unit (GSPU), with research posts hosted by the LSE.

The overarching aim of the Unit will be to generate, distil and disseminate evidence on best practice in policy to extend access to safe, high quality, and affordable surgery globally. Through collaboration and exchange of expertise between leading clinical experts, policymakers, and researchers in the field of global surgical policy, the Unit will provide a platform for generating knowledge and sharing research outputs on evidence-based, context-specific solutions in surgical policy. The Unit will also provide executive-level training in health economics and health policy for surgical clinicians, clinical researchers, and surgery leaders.

The Unit will work in close collaboration with the RCS, its international membership network, NIHR global surgery groups and the RCS-NIHR Global Surgery Unit Hubs in Ghana, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Rwanda, and South Africa.

The Unit will launch formally in summer 2021, with research projects up and running by 2022. The initial three-year investment is expected to continue beyond 2025, as additional partners, experts, and funders are brought on board.

The Assistant Professorial Research Fellow will be responsible for developing the intellectual agenda for the Unit in partnership with the Unit's co-directors from the RCS and the LSE. They will ensure outputs and commitments set out in the programme work plan are produced, and will work with Unit partners to shape and identify future analytical priorities for the programme.

Additionally, the post holder will be expected to contribute to the intellectual life of the School through conducting and publishing outstanding quality research and participating in the School and wider LSE Health activities.

A fuller range of responsibilities are outlined below, however the core responsibilities of the role will be to:



- **Lead research into effective policy in the field of global surgery**
 - Conduct substantive and original research on areas relevant to informing global surgical policy, working in collaboration with the RCS, its international membership network, the RCS-NIHR Global Surgery Research Unit in Birmingham and the NIHR Global Surgery Research Hubs in Ghana, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Rwanda, and South Africa.
 - Supervise a team including a research officer and ad hoc research assistants, as well as provide support to a number of seconded RCS fellows and draw upon research opportunities of wider partner networks
 - Publish research outputs of outstanding quality in top academic journals, and where appropriate, other non-academic publications and resources
- **Engage and collaborate with key stakeholders**
 - Develop a network of global surgical policy researchers with the RCS, its international membership network, the RCS-NIHR Global Surgery Research Unit and NIHR global surgery groups
 - Identify the unique contribution of the GSPU within the wider context of the global surgery research community and engage with key global surgical policy stakeholders e.g. research groups, policymakers, think tanks
 - Lead the development of policy briefings, workshops, conferences, and other events/outputs/activities that facilitate knowledge exchange and policy impact
- **Sustain the unit for the long term**
 - Assist in the identification of additional partners, experts, and funders to support the Unit's work beyond the initial three-year investment period

The post holder will be supported in these activities through key relationships within the London School of Economics and the Royal College of Surgeons.

This post is currently funded for 3 years in the first instance, but with scope for extension subject to the success of the programme in delivering on its objectives and securing further funding.

Range of Academic Activities and Responsibilities at Assistant Professorial Research Fellow Level at LSE

Research productivity

- Developing and carrying forward a coherent research strategy which will result in public recognition and national and international prominence, and fits within the research agenda of the GSPU project
- Guiding, planning and producing the required policy-relevant research outputs for the GSPU as described in the research strategy and annual work plan, including: working with GSPU partners to identify investigative priorities and research focus areas, writing policy briefs, country monitoring reports, and other comparative analyses that will inform policy in the global surgery space.
- Publishing work of outstanding quality and significance to the discipline in top quality and well recognised international peer-reviewed outlets, including publications relevant to global surgery policy areas
- Conducting substantive and original research into complex problems, ideas, concepts, or theories and applying appropriate methodologies
- Planning and directing significant international research activities and programmes, specifically delivering the GSPU programme



- Leading and/or contributing to peer reviewed funding bids for research programmes in the specialist area and achieving success in attracting such funding, including securing grants to extend and broaden the activities of the GSPU
- Contributing to the development of the centre/institute/department and School research strategy
- Participating in national and international committees – e.g. REF panels, Research Funding bodies, etc.
- Contributing to scholarly initiatives in the discipline
- Membership of boards of international journals and other bodies related to the discipline
- Providing expert opinion and commentary to external audiences and bodies
- Providing advice to government bodies

Knowledge engagement and impact

- Planning and delivering engagement, policy dialogues and related knowledge transfer events to communicate research findings
- Evidencing research leadership and expertise through advising or participating in government/international committees, private sector organisations, international bodies, the non-profit sector, or in other governmental or non-governmental organisations
- Actively developing strategies to ensure that research outputs have demonstrable impact and inform the public debate.
- Ensuring that research impact and engagement with wider audiences is at the heart of research strategy within the centre/institute/department, and specifically within the GSPU programme.
- Developing and maintaining expert networks in the global surgery field, with links to other international research hubs
- Expert input into development of executive leadership modules in health policy and economics, with relation to global surgery
- Engaging with non-academic audiences.

Management and leadership of research projects

- Steering the overall intellectual direction of research projects, specifically the GSPU programme
- Attending relevant workshops and policy dialogues
- Leading research projects that may involve co-ordinating the work of others.
- Training and supervising the work of research assistants and of research officers.
- Contributing to the development of teams, through supervision and peer support.

Activities relating to departmental/School management and administration

- Fostering collegiality and fulfilling responsibilities as set out by the Head of Department or Centre/Institute Director.
- Attending and participating in Centre/Department/Institute meetings and contributing towards the intellectual life of the unit.
- Contributing to the development of individuals, through mentoring of junior research staff.
- Support centre/institute/department recruitment activity of research staff, including membership of relevant search committees.

Other responsibilities may include

- Contributing to strategic deliberations and making decisions at Institutional level, e.g. through membership of School committees.
- Supervising Masters' students.

Precise duties are subject to the opportunities available, the contractual obligations imposed by the external funding agency and with the agreement of the grant-holder, Principal Investigator, Centre/Institute Director and/or Head of Department, in accordance with established line management arrangements and commensurate with the post.

**Flexibility**

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility is needed, and the post holder may be required to perform work not specifically referred to above.

Equality and Diversity

To uphold the School's commitment to equality of respect and opportunity, as set out in the [Ethics Code](#), we will treat all people with dignity and respect, and ensure that no one will be treated less favourably because of their role at the School, age, sex, disability, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, or social and economic background. For the full Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy statement, please see the [EDI website](#).

Environmental Sustainability

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.